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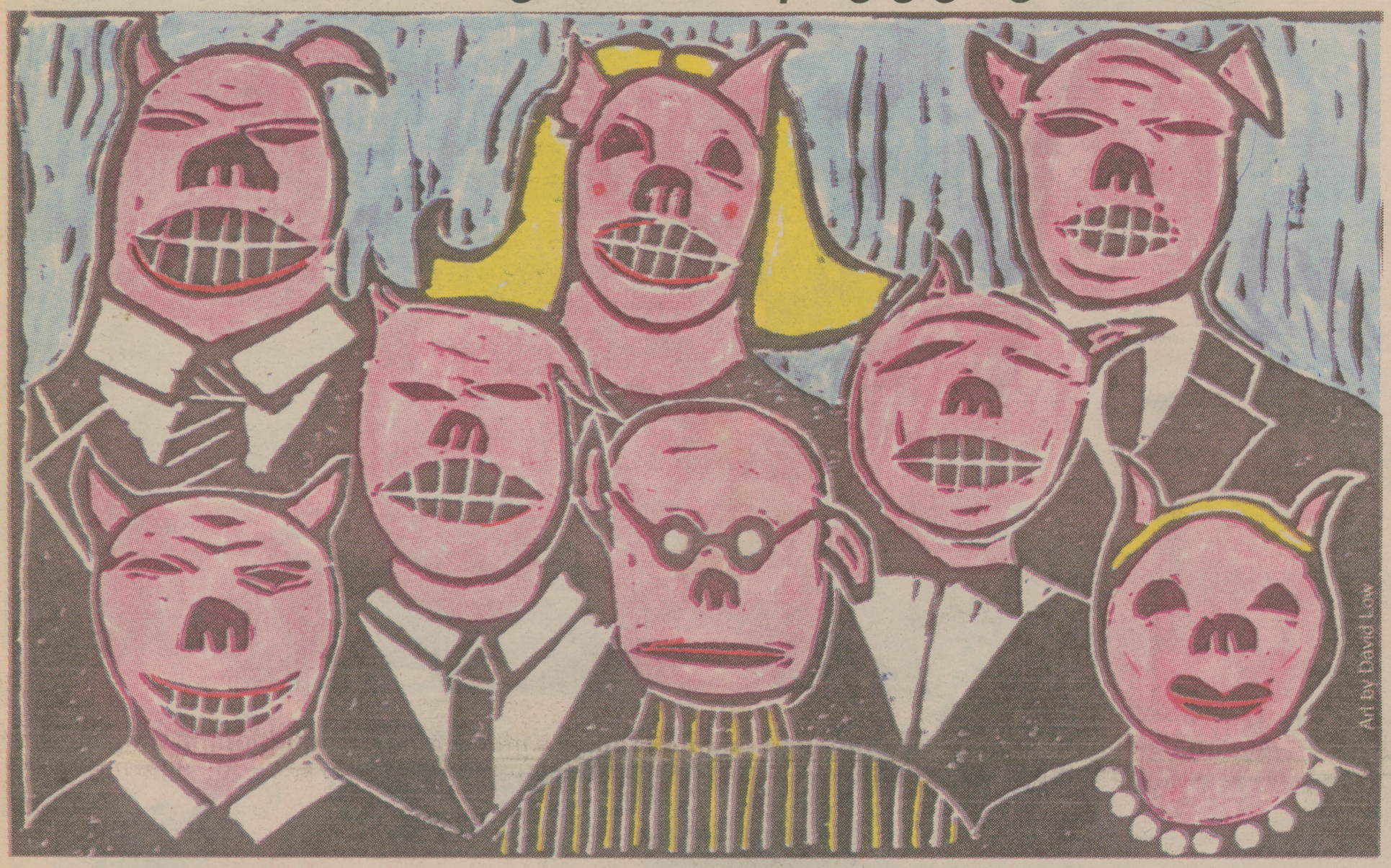
March 25, 1999 Vol 51 Issue 29

and the golden piggy goes to...



Art by David Low

Corporate Piggies make their way to the trough

by Anna Roik

Got a bone to pick with big corporations? It can be done with a laugh at the third annual Corporate Golden Piggy Awards coming up at the Roxy Cinegog at the end of March.

"The Piggy Awards are an exhibition of thinly masked anger for the bosses because the bosses piss us off," said the show's executive producer, Art Farquharson.

Affectionately referred to as Les Cochons d'Or by event organizers, the Piggy Awards were inspired by the B.C. Federation of Labour pig races and the corporate tax-free day.

The awards are intended to recognize the worst of the corporations and individuals currently at play.

Stacey Chappel, the executive director of VIPIRG and presenter at the awards, says the show is always a blast.

"It gets a full house every time, and people dress up as CEOs and wear pig noses and snort instead of clapping."

According to Farquharson, the show is best described as a series of vaudeville vignettes.

The cast will incorporate song and dance routines to tell the audience what the world's massive corporations are up to, providing ammunition for those in the audience who have not previously been active against corporate encroachment.

"The Piggies are a weapon for people who don't go to protests or picket lines," said Farquharson. "It's a way to get them out and show them other ways to become active and speak out against corporate power."

This year the Piggy Awards, which are being sponsored by a slew of local social justice groups and unions, will have room for even more laughs because eight brand-new categories are unveiled.

Among these are the Silk Purse Award for the greediest of all greedy corporations and the Ugly Canadian Award for the most environmentally destructive Canadian business.

Also new to the Piggy Awards is a nomination for a local business interest. According to Farquharson, the nomination committee tries to maintain an international focus to avoid angering the locals, "but this was just too good to pass up."

Nominated for the Playing with Our Money Sports Award is David Pasant and the rest of the crew involved in the Victoria multiplex arena deal.

Pasant and company are in hot competition with the International Olympic Committee and the NHL Owners Association for the coveted Piggy.

And the idea of audience participation will have a whole new meaning after this year's Golden Piggy Awards.

Upon entering the theatre, patrons will be given a numbered ticket.

Four numbers will be drawn for a chance to take part in a hog-calling contest, something more common at agricultural fairs than award shows, but no less exciting.

Prizes will be awarded for the best call, ranging from one free monthly bus pass to grocery vouchers.

Farquharson say s the goa the Piggy Awards is to get enough people involved in campaigns that a critical mass can be reached during future events.

"Any protest campaign needs the power coming from the voices of thousands of people because that's what gets the bosses' attention," he said, adding if it takes singing and dancing while wearing plastic pig snouts to do it, that is exactly what has to be done.

"It's a fun way of giving a lot of information about corporations and looking at how they're behaving in our society," said Chappel.

Farquharson hopes to get more groups involved across the country to hold the awards at different locations on the same day each year.

The Corporate Golden Piggy Awards are on Sunday, March 28 at 2 p.m. at the Roxy Cinegog. Admission is by donation. Formal dress and pig snout are optional.

INSIDE

Anti-racism week backlash: the billboards controversy.

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Mystery food: do you even know what you're eating?

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The Oscars: best of the year or wax of one's ear?

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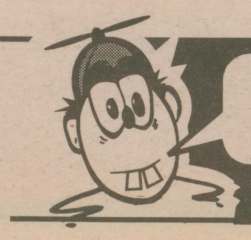

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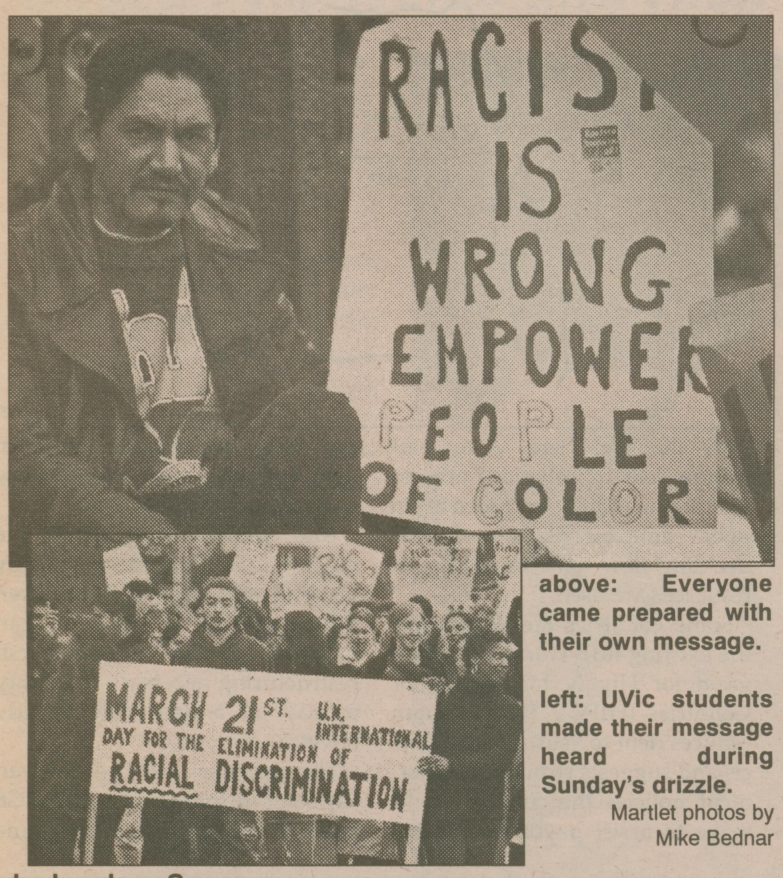
CHRYSLER CANADA

Rally against racism a success



above: Everyone came prepared with their own message.

left: UVic students made their message heard during Sunday's drizzle.

Martlet photos by Mike Bednar

by Lyndsay Sung

Even damp weather couldn't stop Victoria kids from rallying against hate last Sunday.

Over 200 people showed up at Centennial Square on March 21 for Victoria's second annual Rally Against Racism. The event was organized by the Community Coalition Against Racism, a co-operative of over 40 social justice groups, unions, campus organizations and political parties.

Although March 21 is a day where the spotlight shines on combating discrimination, the real message of the rally was that the fight against racism is an ongoing battle.

"In South Africa, apartheid wasn't fought in one day," said Prince Nallo, one of the speakers at the rally. "We march on one day, and for what? It takes years and years of struggle, some people, everyday struggle, to combat racism. Racism costs people their employment, their lives."

Charmaine Khan, one of the event organizers, spoke as a youth and a person of colour on the necessity of gathering against discrimination.

"Obviously people still think there is a need to combat racism, as we can see by the numbers that have shown up today for the rally," said Khan.

Khan also mentioned the importance of events like the Rally Against Racism. "All these things we have now, like pay equity, the welfare system, the Nisga'a treaty, these were not gifts from the government. These were things that were fought for on a grassroots level, the people's movements, that put high pressure on the government and forced them to sit down and make some changes."

Carolina Choy, president and chair of the Capital Region Race Relations, gave a speech about building alliances between persons of colour, First Nations, Métis and white people.

"The issue of racism is a hot one," said Choy. "A lot of people are still in great denial that racism still exists, but by being apathetic and not being aware, we are condoning discrimination."

Celebration of the day also included a historical tour of some of Victoria's "tourist attractions," including Bastion Square, where over 20 First Nations people were targeted and hanged not so long ago by hanging judge Matthew Begbie.

The rally finished at the Legislature with song, dance and speeches, including a welcome by Songhees territorial chief Robert Sam.

"This land that we stand on, on the Legislature, this was one of our old village sites," said Sam of the "Keep Off The Lawn" signs at the Legislature.

"The rent is long overdue."

Poster campaign dumped in Petch

UVic is experiencing a strong reaction to its on-campus anti-racism initiatives. What does this say about the student body?

by Darren Stewart

Last week a campus postering campaign intended to draw attention to racism and the anti-racist movement sparked some heated discussion within the campus community, and was even tossed in the Petch Fountain.

On Thursday, March 18, one of the 20 billboards, which presented statistics and ideas about racism on coloured 11-by-17-inch posters, was dragged across campus from the Engineering Lab Wing and dumped into Petch Fountain, where it remained for the better part of a day.

Students were obviously affected by the displays, which began on March 14, as the boards also had spaces reserved for reactive comments that were nearly full by the end of each day.

By Tuesday morning, at least one of the billboards was stripped bare, and most of the comment space was filled on each board placed across campus.

"Not everybody gave the comments an in-depth analysis," said Ellie Parks, the outreach coordinator for the Women's Centre, who was involved in organizing the campaign. "We got comments like 'Nazi pigs get that propaganda out of my building.'"

Parks said that the display's design was intended to stimulate dialogue and highlight attitudes across the spectrum of racist and anti-racist discussion.

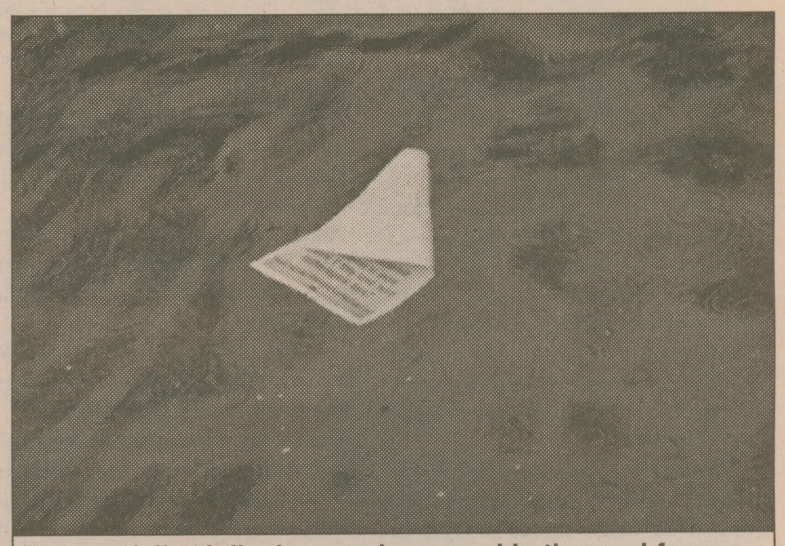
"Now we really see a need to get more people talking about these things," said Parveen Kaur Nijjar, event coordinator also working with the Women's Centre.

Both women suggested that people should get active and vocal if they were offended by the content of the billboards.

"Get involved with our group. We're not experts on racism, we just wanted to present the facts," said Parks. "And we included citations with all the facts and quotes, so if you didn't believe the posters go a step further and get the book."

Parks says that, although she is not a person of colour, she did not feel bashed by the truths presented on the posters that many respondents called a "white-bashing forum."

She estimates that 90 per cent of comments responding to the posters were hostile, defensive or aggressive reactions from the white campus community.



The vandalized display was immersed in the pool for nearly a full day so that everyone on campus could see the reaction to the anti-racist campaign.

Martlet photo by Peter Booth

In light of the hostile reactions to the campaign, Parks is reluctant to suggest that the discussion had an entirely positive effect.

But reactions, though occasionally violent and poorly founded, fit with the initial aim of the campaign to initiate discussion on the topic of racism.

"I'm hoping that people look at where that gut reaction comes from," said Parks. "People should be questioning their assumptions and the belief system that created that reaction. At least these things are out in the open now."

Kuar Nijjar doesn't see a problem with the reaction the campaign received.

"We weren't out to get a negative response," said Kuar Nijjar. "But people got to say what the feel, and even though I don't agree with everyone, they got a chance to vent. Now maybe we can get the university involved and start a public forum for discussion of racism."

The event sponsors included the University of Victoria Students' Society, the Equity Office, the Women's Centre and the Community Coalition Against Racism.

The 18 pages of comments and discussion will be posted in the main foyer of the SUB this afternoon for communication with the campus community.

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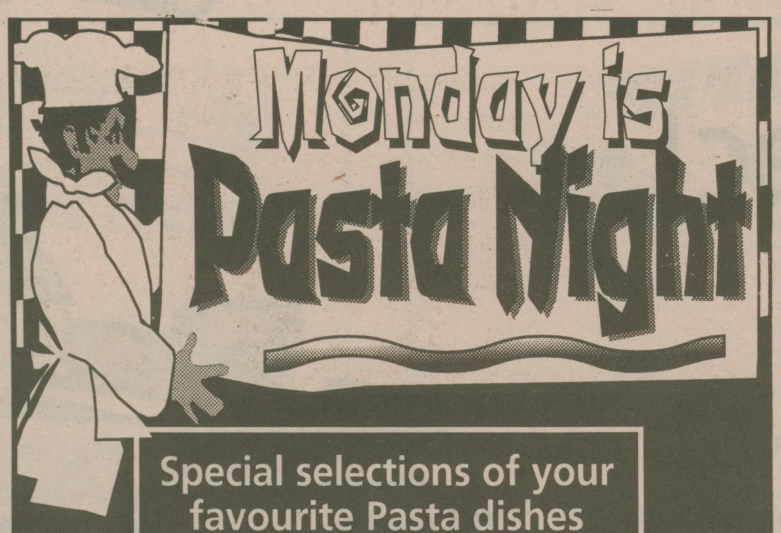

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UBC puts criminal study on hold

by Cynthia Lee and Douglas Quan

VANCOUVER (CUP)—The future of a University of British Columbia study into the causes of predatory violence hangs in the balance after a television station reported on the project last week.

For the past year and a half, convicted criminals have been brought to UBC Hospital to undergo neurological tests as part of the psychology department's study into the brain function of psychopaths.

The future of the three-year study, which researchers had hoped to keep under wraps, is now uncertain after BCTV exposed the project.

"It's on hold," said Robert Hare, one of the study's researchers. "The university's image is at risk."

The study, funded by the Medical Research Council of Canada, involves bringing inmates to the hospital where they undergo tests using magnetic resonance imaging technology.

The study could shed light on the neurobiological causes of predatory violence, Hare said.

The latest group of inmates was to have been brought to UBC's hospital last week. But when BCTV announced it was going to air a report about the research on its newscast, the project was put on hold.

An unnamed source had tipped off BCTV a day before the inmates were to be transferred.

"Someone close to the information breached their own code of confidentiality and went to the media, and we have no idea who that is," said hospital spokeswoman Linda Bartz.

"It is unfortunate that this research is somewhat in jeopardy because someone decided that it was a story."

Bartz said the study was deliberately kept confidential because researchers didn't want the public to be afraid.

Researchers involved in the project insisted Monday there was never any risk to public safety.

"Security was a prime concern," said Hare, adding the convicts were always brought to the hospital by a Corrections Canada escort team.

"They're in shackles, hand and foot."

Still, campus RCMP Staff-Sgt. Lloyd Plante said he would have liked to be notified about the planned transfer of inmates last week.

"They are serious offenders...there should be a system in place to ensure that at least we're notified of the fact that they're in the community and of the profile of these [inmates]," Plante said.

Hare said the RCMP were briefed about the study when it first began, but Corrections Canada officials were responsible for notifying the force each time the inmates were brought to the hospital.

Corrections Canada officials did not return *the Ubyssey's* calls.

"Security was a prime concern. They're in shackles, hand and foot."

Worldwide campaign hits town

by Brenda Martin

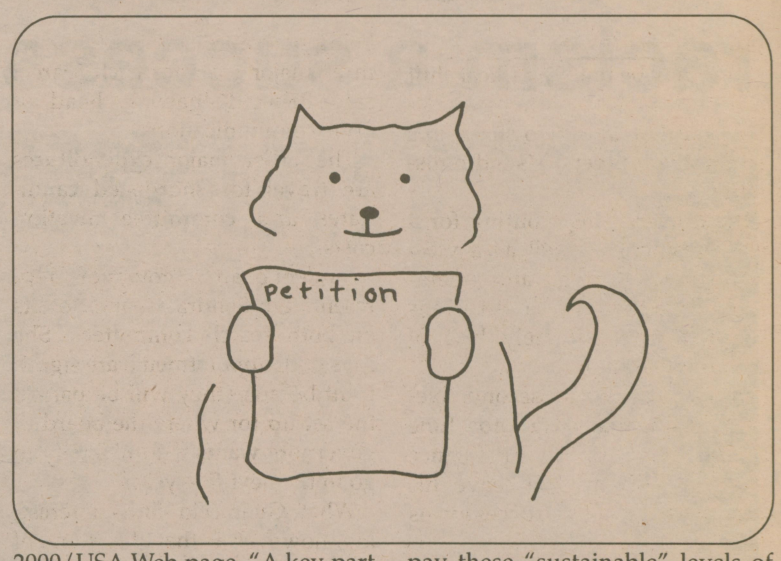
A worldwide movement to cancel the debt of impoverished countries will visit UVic this week in the form of a petition.

The Jubilee 2000/USA Program petition calls for the cancellation of underdeveloped countries' national debts by the start of the new millennium.

The bilateral (owing at one level, as in a bank) and multilateral (owning on many different levels: banks, other countries, etc.) debt cancellation program is aimed at eliminating debts of poor nations who have borrowed money from developed nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

The program organizers are aiming to help countries like Nicaragua, which spends twice as much on debt reduction as it does on education and clean water.

"It's as if you got a house and 50 per cent of your money goes into paying for the house. No lights, no phone, no nothing," said Pat Hayward, organizer of the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative.



A goal of the Jubilee program is to ensure debt-ridden countries do not get caught up in the vicious circle of getting loans to pay loans.

Not only are some countries hopelessly in debt, but also many of the people in these nations don't see the money put to good use.

"Many leaders squandered the money on badly designed projects, military spending or personal corruption," claims the Jubilee 2000/USA Web page. "A key part of [the debt cancellation] process will be making sure society in poor countries plays a role in deciding how national economic resources are used."

Some countries are eligible for the existing IMF-World Bank program for Highly Indebted Poor Countries (HIPC). This program reduces debt to "sustainable" levels and suggests structural adjustment policies the country could make to assist payback of debts over an extended period of time.

But Kate Fagan, Catholic Chaplain at the UVic Interfaith Chaplains' office, suggests that the original program for HIPCs isn't sufficient.

"It's like asking a starving person to give up more food," she said. According to Fagan, countries have to keep up the new structure system for six years before the reduction of debts goes into place. She suggested that to pay these "sustainable" levels of debt, countries often have to grow cash crops instead of food.

And, though 41 countries are eligible to use the program, only Uganda and Bolivia have taken advantage of it. This, Fagan believes, is due to the harsh restructuring necessary to qualify to pay off a debt they already have.

The petition will go to Jean Chretien in to be taken to the G8 Summit in Germany this June where eight of the most powerful countries in the world discuss international policy.

According to Fagan, all countries but Japan, Italy and Germany have expressed interest in the initiative.

The petition will likely be accessible to UVic on Tuesday, March 30 at the McPherson Library, the MacLaurin building and the Student Union Building.

A goal of the Jubilee program is to ensure debt-ridden countries do not get caught up in the vicious circle of getting loans to pay loans.

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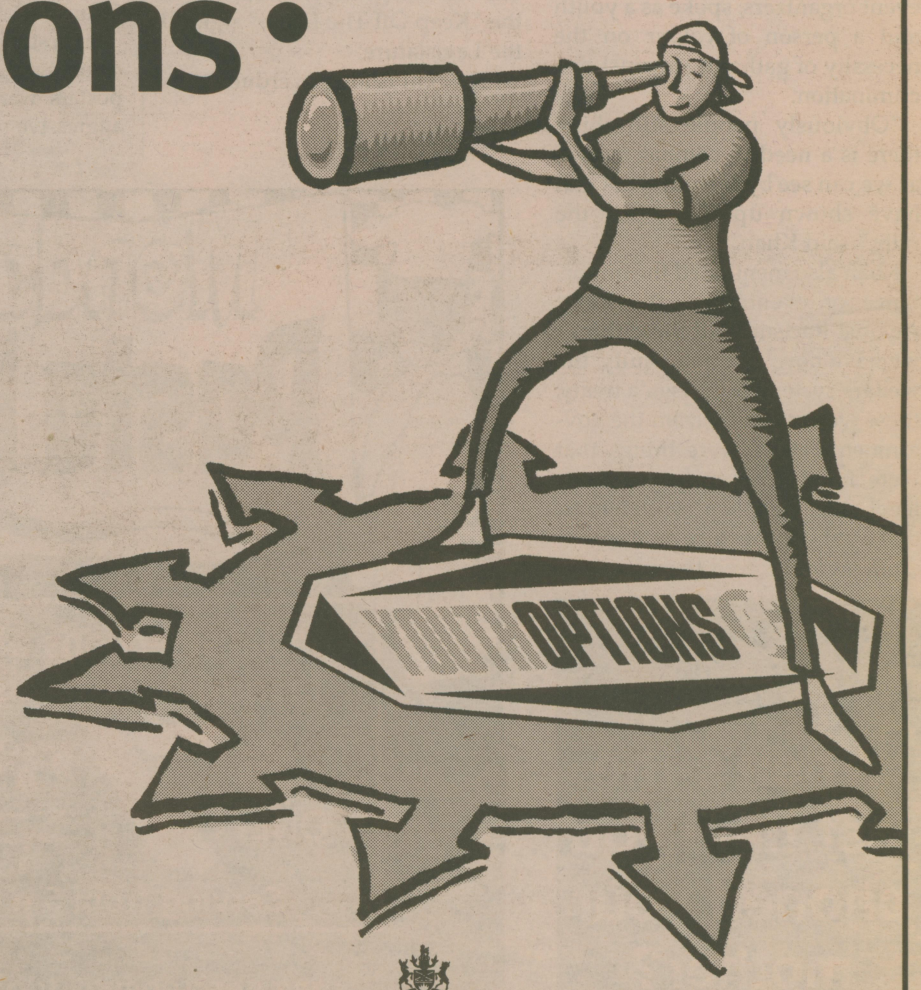

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YOUTH OPTIONS

The search is on

by Mary Vallis

UVic may be in for a radical shift in attitude in the upcoming academic year thanks to two shake-ups within the university's administration.

The university is scouting for a new president as well as a vice-president of finance and operations. Together, these positions comprise approximately half of the administration.

Dr. David Strong's second five-year presidential term ends June 30, 2000, and current VP finance Dr. Don Rowlatt will leave his post as soon as a successor is found.

Rowlatt will continue his work with UVic as an honourary business professor. After nearly six years as a vice-president at UVic, Rowlatt says his decision to step back is a positive one.

"It's all a simple part of life's moves," he said, pointing out his interaction with students will continue in his new role.

And after two full terms as president, Strong is ready for a break.

"The terms of reference [for president] say that normally a president serves two terms," said Strong in an interview last November.

A change in half of UVic's top brass could have major implications for UVic's self-image and approach. Vice-president academic Dr. Penny Codding says she is looking forward to the challenges she and the new administration will encounter at UVic's highest level of authority.

"I think it's a challenge and an opportunity," said Codding. "A challenge because new people coming in will need help...and an opportunity because of the new energy and enthusiasm [new members] will bring."

Each search has its own search committee. The 21-member presidential search committee is made up of members of the university from all sides, including student and individual faculty, as well as members from the senate and board of governors. The committee held its first meeting in February, and the 10-member vice-president committee, which is made up of a similar composition of members, met for the first time yesterday.

Both committees are enlisting the help of professional search consultants. Each consultant is being paid at least $60,000, one of three major costs for each search, said Bruce Kilpatrick, head of UVic communications.

The other major expenditures are travel for shortlisted candidates and committee meeting costs.

Student board of governors' representative Sandra Guarascio sits on both search committees. She says both appointments are significant because they will be part of the set-up for where the board of governors wants the university to go in the next five years.

What Guarascio finds interesting, however, is that she is one of the only members who is sitting on both committees.

She said that it is important to build a solid administrative group, but because scouting for the two positions is proceeding simultaneously, the results may not take into account the group dynamic that will eventually play into the university's senior level of decision-making.

"What we're looking for is an administrative team, yet we're not looking at them as a team. We're looking for them as individuals," said Guarascio.

However, Rowlatt said the new vice-president should be firmly established by the time a presidential candidate is recommended to the board of governors.

Each committee will be soliciting public input before establishing the criteria on how candidates will be judged for the jobs. The presidential committee has scheduled two "town hall" style meetings on April 12 and April 14 to hear the campus community, and students can also make written submissions by e-mail up to April 9 through sscunsec@uvic ca.

Though the committees are still fresh, rumours are already flying about who might apply as an internal candidate from UVic–a current vice-president would seem the most logical. The three-member VP team is currently rounded out by Dr. Martin Taylor, who was just appointed earlier this year, and Codding, who took over her post in 1996.

Though she seems a logical candidate, Codding says she has no plans to leave her recent appointment as VP.

"Life is very hard to predict," she said. "But right now I'm happy staying right where I am."

Cross gets one in the eye: public forum sympathizes with the poor

by Sarah Leipciger

Victoria Mayor Bob Cross was roasted over the spitfire Tuesday at a public forum held to discuss an initiative to outlaw downtown panhandling.

During the forum, which was held at the Herald Street Centre for the Arts, people directed their anger at Cross because existing bylaws, such as the street-camping bylaw, already inhibit citizens from sitting on downtown streets during certain hours of the day. They also feel that Victoria provides insufficient services for the poor.

"You want a city like a postcard. A postcard is a dead object."

"I can't get an apartment," said one frustrated youth. "I can't sell my jewelry. What can I do if I can't panhandle for food? Where do I go?"

Cross replied that she should utilize the available city services, a comment that was followed by boos from the audience and yells that city services were not nearly good enough.

Co-sponsored by CFAX radio and the Victoria Chamber of Commerce, the forum was designed to seek public opinion on downtown panhandling, solutions to panhandling, and the possibility of the anti-panhandling bylaw that will be discussed in council today.

"We all want the same thing," said Glen Terrell, chief executive officer of the Chamber of Commerce. "[We want] a healthy, vibrant downtown. This is a good way to air all sides and find some answers and solutions to downtown problems."

Of the approximately 300 Victorians that attended the forum, the consensus was that panhandling is necessary and acceptable, and should be left alone. The sentiment of the forum's attendees was also that panhandlers in Victoria are picked on by police and city council.

"I'm 72 years old, and I see panhandling as no big deal," said another woman. "I see [the initiatives] as poor-bashing."

Cross was not the only person under the spotlight. A panel of four literally sat under harsh lighting in the centre's black theatre. Cross was accompanied by Victoria city police chief Doug Richardson, *Times Colonist* publisher Peter Baillie and the executive director of the Victoria Youth Empowerment Society, Pat Griffin.

Richardson heard that if panhandling was not allowed in the city, people would have to resort to stealing or other crimes in order to feed themselves.

As for the anti-panhandling bylaw, Richardson made it clear that people would not be arrested for panhandling. Instead, they would either be fined or put into counselling or training if a new bylaw is passed.

But several audience members disagreed with this approach.

"Some people on the street are not ready to go through counselling," said Sarah Nugent of the Youth Advocacy Society.

While the first half of the meeting was peppered with anger and accusations, the second half of the forum moved into the realm of solution-making, which was certainly a relief for the beleaguered Cross, who by that point was tapping his chair and red in the face.

Sandra Mark of the Victoria Community Economic Development Society said, "In Victoria we're very restrictive in terms of what we allow [panhandlers] to do. There are artists, musicians and storytellers on the streets."

Her comment was followed by many suggestions to allow panhandlers to sell their crafts or play their music without the mandatory license that is required of them, which she said is not affordable for most artisans.

Other suggestions included using empty downtown office space for cheap housing and asking the *Times Colonist* to focus on "happy" stories to instill hope in Victoria. One man jokingly suggested a token "beggar bowl" in lieu of a license.

Many people were concerned that because the forum was sponsored by the Chamber, the voices of the "experts," the street people themselves, were not going to be given adequate space.

"Why are you four up there?" said one woman to the panel. "The real experts are all back here. These kids know how to solve the problems."

The proposed anti-panhandling bylaw is meant to give the existing voluntary Code of Conduct "teeth," as Cross put it.

The document was developed last year by the Community Development Commission. It asks all Victorians to respect each other, and, among other things, asks panhandlers to not harass passers-by.

But one third of the forum's audience indicated that they were happy with the code the way it is, in its voluntary state.

"You want a city like a postcard," said one man to Cross. "A postcard is a dead object."

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EDITORIAL

Get a conscience, downtown Victoria. You're just a bunch of piggie puffs.

Okay business community, we're on to you. You pay taxes. You have a vote.

That's pretty clear given the debate over this here anti-panhandler idea that's being tossed around.

You've already shut up their dogs, silenced their drums and disrupted their peace by outlawing their right to sit down when they're tired.

What more could you do to the downtown community? Yep, taking away their freestanding right to ask their co-citizens for food money is another step in the right(wing) direction.

But you know what? We agree with you. Bob and Marsha Tackywoozer from Washington, D.C., that couple who spent $300 on a faux-First Nations sweater last summer, deserve more rights in our community than that kid on the corner of Yates and Douglas who was probably born here. You're right, what were we thinking?

At this point you're saying, oh Martlet. Here we go again.

Damn straight.

We're coming down hard on the side of the homeless because they don't have a voice anywhere else in this city, not even at a community-sponsored forum on this very topic. They deserve one. As students, we pay about as much in city taxes as the downtown community, yet we seem to have more of a say in the direction Victoria is taking on a daily basis. Maybe you'll listen to us when we say: NO ANTI-PANHANDLING BYLAW. (Sorry, did you catch that?) We said: GIVE RIGHTS TO ALL CITIZENS, NOT JUST TOURISTS, YOU MONEY-HUNGRY PIGS.

What you don't seem to realize is that we all live here year-round, not just between May and August like the tourists do.

You know what we'd like to see, city council? We'd like to see you legislate the Chamber of Commerce's butt right onto that fast ferry and get their poison ideas out of OUR town.

(Hey, psst. city hall. now it's your turn.)

Are you going to listen to these punks forever? If you keep bending to every whim of the business community we're going to be living in a truly capitalist society with no municipal safety net for those in need.

The business community wants this bylaw because it interferes with their main objective: banking the cash. But let's take this logic one step further. They want those few pennies that tourists give the homeless in their cash registers. What does this diversion of funds mean? It means that the guy on the corner, that you probably went to grade school with back when you had integrity, won't be able to eat tonight. How does that make you feel, you hardasses?

Panhandlers are out there because they HAVE to be. If you're ignorant enough to think that people actually sit on the street, in the cold, just for kicks, then you've obviously never been in need. And that should tell you that your coffers are full enough to be able to afford to live with everyone in your community, without those few cents you could divert with this latest initiative. We need to protect the rights of the downtown community to get by any way they can, and we need to present Victoria for what it is: a city with economic disparity and a community of panhandlers who know their rights and are polite about them.

Corporate piggies indeed. We'd like to nominate the Victoria Chamber of Commerce for the Rotten Giblets award. You don't seem to have souls, just rotted guts that are beginning to reek.

Editorial topics are decided upon by staff at editorial meetings and are written by one or more staff members. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of all staff.

wahhhh, i'd like to thank my mother, and my father, and my hairdresser, and my family, and my...waahh-hh! my... my good friend, and my beautiful costar, and my...beautiful agent...
oh my god, there's brad...and he's with that... "friends" cow! that fat stupid small screen bitch! fatty! fatass....grrrrrrrr.....oh my god, i look so fat in pink...i look like a pig...wahhhh!
photo: Associated Press

LETTERS

Editorial hits home

Editors,

I wish to congratulate and commend you on the substance of your Editorial "Don't Settle for Crap 101" 11 March 1999. Your findings parallel those opinions expressed in the book 'Zero Tolerance' Peter Emberley. I would suggest that this text should be required reading by all Faculty and Governors.

A generation ago (several I fear!) when I attended UBC, all faculty lectured and all were good teachers. To those faculty who can't or won't teach there is only one solution—"fire them."

—J. Rowe
UBC (48) Mich (58)

Sherman, you've done it again

Editors,

I know Scott Sherman. Scott Sherman is an acquaintance of mine. Editors, I am no Scott Sherman. I am, however, a classmate of Scott Sherman - he's OK, a nice guy, if a little defensive right now. I will not heap vitriol upon Scott as a couple of your less sophisticated correspondents have done. He is, however, completely and utterly off base in his letter to the March 18 Martlet.

First of all, how on earth did Scott get to Engineering students as "environmental terrorists" , dashing as it sounds, from Anita Zaenker's description of us as not supporting "green initiatives or universal programs"? I've been studying Engineering since 1994, and I thought Zaenker's comments were generalizations, but reasonable enough as far as these things go. I've found that Engineering students, with exceptions, are a pretty conservative bunch (an impression that Scott's letter only reinforces). I think our workload fosters a kind of bootstrap mentality, but I'm open to other theories. Having said that, the Engineering Wing polling station received only 3 more votes against the U-PASS than for it - hardly a mandate for neo-conservatism, hmmm?

Secondly, this communism thing (sigh). Why is there always a race for the rhetorical bottom in these matters? It's not exciting enough to disagree with someone in a rational manner - NO, call them communists!

Better yet, compare them to Adolf Hitler, as some are doing with Victoria's smoking bylaw. OK... look, this is how it works: a democratically elected body (the UVSS) proposes a new thing (the U-PASS), then - get this - holds a referendum to allow students to vote on it. 68% - more than a two-thirds majority - votes in favour - and this is communism? How, then, does democracy work? Do we wear special hats or something?

Scott should know that diesel engines are in some ways cleaner than gasoline ones. It should also be obvious to him that 50 people in one vehicle produce less pollution than 50 people in 50 vehicles, but these are quibbles. I am sincerely sorry for prolonging this debate waaaayyyyyy beyond its use-by date, but Scott's letter tickled me so much that I had to write.

—Murray Love

Let's hear more about the U-Pass!

Editors,

I am writing in response to Anita Zaenker comments in the March 11th issue of the Martlet in which she so neatly summed up her stereotypical views of engineering and commerce students by the following comments stating, "They have a user fee mentality. They don't support green initiatives or universal programs."

So Ms Zaenker, why should I support these green initiatives and universal programs? You see, I am a rich punk with a nice $80,000 car and I can do whatever I want because I have money. Money makes the world go round, and it is always nice to know that when I graduate I do not have to worry about paying back a so called student loan because my entire education has been financed by the Bank of Mom and Dad. Paying 88 dollars a year is going to suck but I am sure my parents will have no quorum paying it; this is usually the amount of money that I spend in the bar during the weekend.

What do I have to gain by lowering my standards and taking public transportation? You see, there is an opportunity cost involved because instead of riding around in a cramped, dirty bus, I could be driving around in my 500 SL with leather seats, air conditioning, and a hell of a good stereo. I will drive everywhere in my luxury car because it is your God given right when you come from an extremely well off family.

The biggest support for the U-Pass came from students in the Arts Faculty, so in the short tun they will benefit at the expense of other students who don't rely on public transportation. However, in the long run, it will be the engineering and commerce students who will benefit, because they will not be forced to degrade themselves by asking "Would you liked that super sized today?"

—Chris Jericho

Racism hurts the ducks

Editors,

I am writing to express the deep regret and disappointment I have felt with the reactions to the week against racism campaign. I am a "white" woman within this society of many ethnicity's and it is for this reason that I was so ashamed of the sheer anger and bitterness expressed in the "comments" sections of the anti-racism boards that were placed all over campus. I have not yet seen one positive comment in any of the boards and I have been reading all that I see. This kind of backlash I can only assume comes from Euro-descended people as who else would feel threatened to be confronted with the possibility of having to share their space and their power. People have been arguing that money shouldn't be "wasted" on this kind of thing yet clearly the overwhelmingly negative comments have shown that there are clear tensions within Canada that need to be addressed. Other people argued that reverse-racism exists as if that made things different. That may be true in some cases but it is ultimately a question of power and we all know who holds the majority of power in this world. The most disgusting thing I saw was that some defensive idiot or person had shoved one of the campaign boards into the duck pool by the library. Now I ask you, how will ht person who has to wade into the water to retrieve that big board feel? That kind of lashing out is not only immature and destructive it show no respect

continued on next page

The Martlet **has an open letters policy and will endeavor to print every letter received from members of the university community, with priority to undergraduate students. Letters must be TYPEWRITTEN, submitted on disk or e-mailed and include your name and phone number for verification. LETTERS MUST BE 200 WORDS MAXIMUM. Letters will be reviewed for libel at** ***the Martlet*** **editorial meeting on the week of publication. Deadline for letters is Friday noon before publication date. Letters will be prioritized by the order received. Letters with pseudonyms or group names will not be printed. Letters will not be edited for spelling or grammar. Letters may be mailed to Box 3035, University of Victoria, Victoria, BC, V8W 3P3, dropped off at SUB B011 or emailed to martlet@uvic.ca**

continued from previous page

whatsoever for the people behind the campaign, the people who feel the effects of racism, the property, and of course the ducks who just want a place to swim. Clearly whoever threw that sign in the water has never been on the receiving end of racism and apparently they have no desire to try and understand why it is important to reach people like that. That person I'm afraid, is probably hopeless, as they reacted like a child who throws a tantrum when they don't like something. I hope that one day we will not need anti-racism campaigns on campus or anywhere in Canada, as I am discouraged to see that these week only seem to spark off and perpetuate racism behaviour and attitudes. I will end by saying we were all born in the skin tone and culture we have by an absolute fluke, so it could have been you or I that would be a target of this negativity. There is enough violence and misunderstanding in this world that we cannot control, why don't we create our lives to be open and understanding to the incredible diversity and sameness we each share. Anything else is just learned hatred and distress and we are better than that, ALL OF US.

—Celeste Lyon

Cuts set sad precedent

Editors,

In response to John Trueman's article "If courses were limbs" and Juliana Saxton's article in defence of the arts. I was deeply touched as I read this article; by Trueman's courage and integrity. I commend and admire his ability to so passionately address the injustice of the situation at hand. I agree the loss of such an integral multifaceted program. I question our willingness to allow such vital programs to disappear. I question the expectation of students taking TIE/DIE next year to graduate to take the required courses "at one bite" rather than four years?

How can we achieve a healthy society if we chip away at our core, removing limbs one by one? Without fully developed educational systems how do we provide our students—our future leaders—with the right balance of knowledge, skill, compassion and integrity necessary to move our society forward in a healthy manner? How do we leave our children with a legacy to build upon once we're gone from their lives? It seems to me that cuts to our educational systems can no longer be tolerated. utions can occur even when they appear impossible.

When our limbs are removed what do we have left? When our voices are faintly heard, what do we have left?

Forgive this melodramatic address but I am concerned. Have you ever felt the desire as you grieve the loss of a loved one, to shout and tell the world to STOP and to NOTICE and to PAY ATTENTION? Do you know who and what we have lost here? Do you know just how significant this loss is? Do you question the need for such loss?

Thank you, J. Trueman, for bringing this loss to our attention. For when we lose of program with the likes of TIE, then we suffer the consequences for a long, long time.

In closing, I ask, why do we continue to cut the arts and Educational Theatre? It's an elective, right, it's an extra, it's a frill, right—wrong. The arts are part of our whole, one of our vital intelligences. What would our lives truly be without the arts? I myself do not wish to find out.

I believe, regardless of cuts, that arts will make themselves know and begin to flourish again. Cheers for TIE/DIE! I believe with enough will and determination we can find a way to find solutions and maybe bring back this vital TIE/DIE program to UVic. Any takers?

—Truoy Pauluth-Penner

(Student) Voice

Keep politics in perspective

We attended the Peace March for Tibet on Saturday, 6 March in support of the campaign against the Tibetan people's oppression within and forced exile from Tibet during the Chinese occupation. The march was highly successful and focused greater attention on the plight of the Tibetan people. Unfortunately, the march was marred by a couple of incidents to which we would like to draw attention.

The march began at Centennial Square and passed the Gates of Harmonious Interest at the entrance to Chinatown. When asked if this was deliberate, one of the organizers replied that the march usually started there. He commented that it was partly because the gate was in celebration of harmony. He also stated that the organizers distribute letters to the Chinese merchants saying that the protest is not aimed at them, but then he talked about "educating the Chinese people." We would like to point out that, even if it was not the intention to suggest that the Chinese community in Victoria has some connection to the invasion of Tibet, beginning the march at Chinatown sends a subtle message to the Chinese community and to other Victorians that the Chinese people are responsible for the actions of the Chinese government. Surely this is not all that different from holding the Japanese-Canadian community responsible for the acts of the Japanese government during WWII? The occupation of Tibet has nothing to do with the Chinese-Canadian citizens who live and work in Victoria, some of whose families left China generations ago, sometimes themselves fleeing the political situation in China. Furthermore, the gate is intended as a symbolic reminder of the joint effort Chinese and non-Chinese citizens in Victoria have made to preserve Chinatown's heritage. The meaning is specifically local and is reminiscent of a time when relations between Victoria's White and Chinese communities were not harmonious, a time when anti-Asian sentiment was directed at those who lived and worked in Chinatown. We would like the march to begin at another intersection next year, so as to avoid any implication of protest against Victoria's Chinese community.

At least this year the organizers acknowledged that the march was taking place on Aboriginal land. Having done this, however, one of the organizers stated that the oppression was in no way comparable to that of the Tibetans. To this we would like to say that oppressions should not be compared. To attempt to place oppression within a hierarchy is pointless and divisive. Further, such a comparison fails to recognize the terrible impact colonization has had on Aboriginal peoples across North America. Millions have been killed or have died from the effects of disease, poverty, starvation and other ills of colonization beginning in 1492 and continuing today. Aboriginal peoples have lost languages, have had their spiritual beliefs beaten out of them, and have watched as works of art, ceremonial regalia and lands have been taken from them. Whether on reserve or reservation, many Aboriginal peoples have had to live in exile—in their own land. If one wishes to compare the experiences of Tibetans and Aboriginal peoples under colonization, one can find many similarities. Solidarity with Tibetans and greater attention to the plight of Tibet could be achieved through the acknowledgement of cultural and geographical displacement and genocide on an international scale, rather than through the ranking of Tibetans' oppression within an arbitrary hierarchy.

If we are marching for human rights and peace in Tibet, ought we not also seek to avoid placing any blame for human rights violations on people whose only connection to the Chinese government is their Chinese heritage? Shouldn't we also acknowledge that Canada's historical record bears the ugly marks of genocide and colonization, even if the present day situation might (to some) not seem comparable to that of Tibet?

—Karen Duder & Christie Shaw

Got something on your mind? Student Voice is a venue for students and other members of the campus community to air their indvidual opinions. Submissions must be in before Monday at noon, and are voted or vetoed by staff at Monday Editorial meetings. Make it around around 350 words (if you can).

CINECENTA
STUDENT UNION BUILDING
UVSS

Friday & Saturday
2:30 matinee, 7:00 & 9:20

Under Heaven

LATENITE
Swingers
Fri & Sat Latenight at 11:30

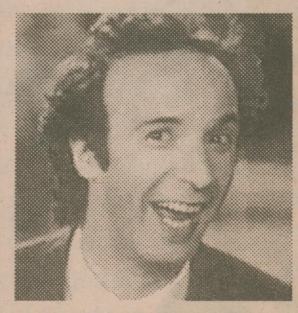
KIDS MATINEE
SATURDAY & SUNDAY 12:30
The Secret of Nimh

Sunday | Monday
2:30 matinee & 7:00 | 7:00 only

Let it Come Down
The life of Paul Bowles

Sun & Mon 8:30 only
Buffalo 66

Tues
7:15 & 9:15
"BENIGNI IS BEAUTIFUL"
Roberto Benigni
in



Johnny Stecchino

the Martlet
51 years of

shame, shame, shame

Quote of the Week:

"I'm trained like a seal."

—Kyle Frederiksen, head typist of the Inner Harbour Review

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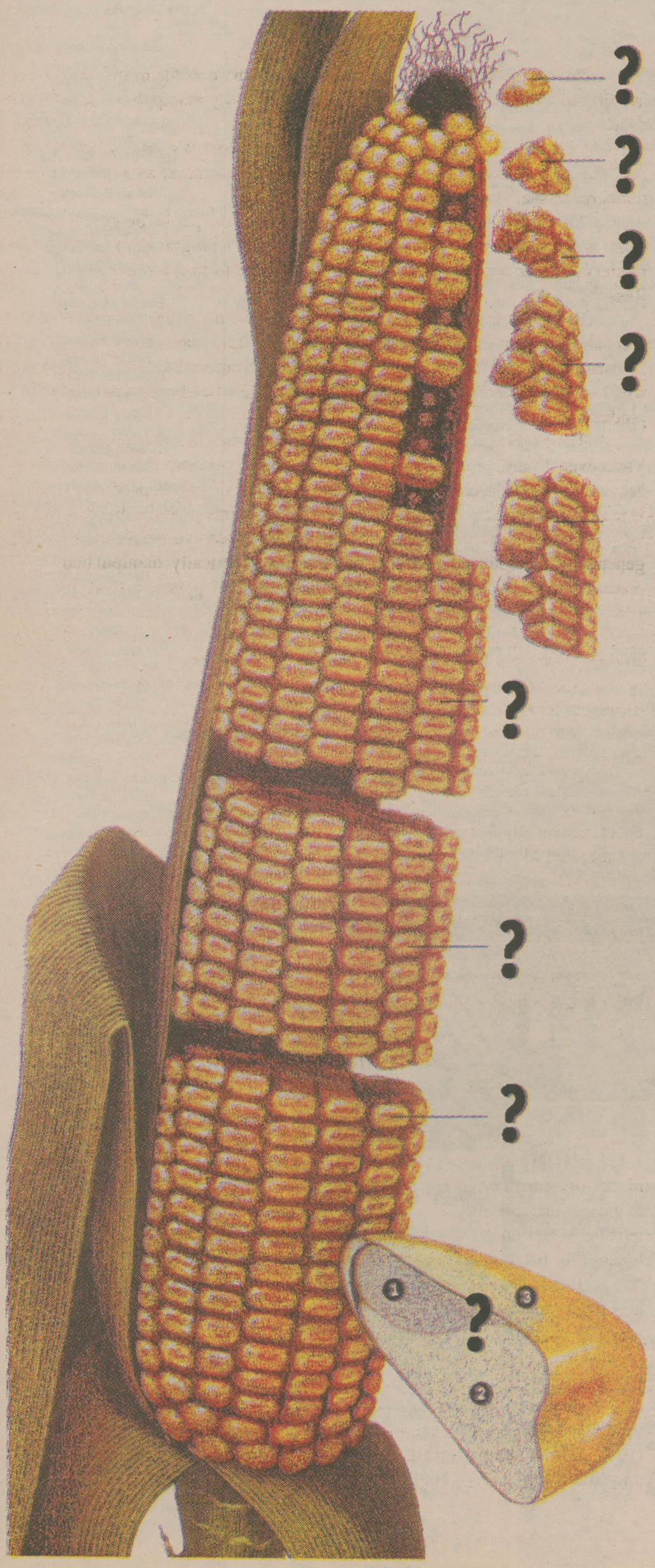
mystery foo

consumers are calling for labels on genetica



by Sarah Glen

The heat rises from the plate, pulling with it the smell of stir-fried snow peas, baby corn and salty cashews. Although the aroma is tantalizing, for UVic student Eliana Lev the steaming plate of Chinese cuisine represents another hurdle she has to jump before picking up her chopsticks.

"I always have to ask if the food has been prepared in fish oils, or cooked in the same pan with some food that has," says Lev, who was diagnosed with a severe allergy to gilled fish when she was four years old.

Her allergic reaction can be deadly—although she's never tested it. "I've never swallowed fish. If I did, my throat would swell, and I'd suffocate. But once I was working at a deli wrapping fish, and I broke out in red, itchy lumps the size of quarters that covered my whole body," says Lev.

Lev, like many other food-allergy sufferers, walks a tightrope every time she goes out to dinner or buys her groceries. Up until recently, asking the restaurant server or reading the labels on foods was the safest way to prevent a deadly attack.

But that was before genetically modified foods became the staple of the food-production industry in Canada. Now Lev has found herself wondering just what genes are in the fruits, vegetables, grains and oils she eats. And she is one of many consumers and food-allergy sufferers calling for a label on genetically modified food.

Huge industry, no labels

Genetically modified foods have had genes added or taken away from them. Some are more tolerant to herbicides or resistant to pests and viruses. Some ripen slower than others, some are genetically manipulated for pollination control. The 'rearrangement' of a plant's genetic code forgoes natural selection, which normally takes place deep within the nutrient-rich soil of farmers' fields. Instead, scientists and researchers are mixing genes within white-washed laboratories across Canada, like the Plant Biotechnical Institute in Saskatoon.

In the lucrative field of genetically manipulated produce, the institute is at the forefront, working with corporations such as Monsanto and Agrivo to develop genetically altered crops, while placing Canada in the top 10 per cent of the global market for genetically manipulated crops.

Within Canada's borders a battle is raging between consumers and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency, which doesn't require labels on genetically modified produce. Consumers and food-allergy sufferers say the ruling is devastating because they rely on labels for nutritional information.

The agency doesn't impose mandatory labeling on genetically manipulated foods, preferring to "leave it up to the food manufacturer to provide voluntary labeling," says agency spokesperson Bart Bilmer.

Bilmer says that although the decision to rest the burden of labeling on the manufacturer applies more pressure on the food distributors, genetically manipulated food production is such a vast market, the agency just doesn't have the resources to test all products falling into this category.

"It's a very difficult task labeling all genetically manipulated foods and their by-products," says Bilmer. "There are no testing methods available yet to test all the various product forms, although foods do undergo safety testing."

Corn, for example, is in some form or another in 25 per cent of all processed foods, and only second (just behind canola) in mass genetically manipulated food production worldwide, according to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency.

od

lly manipulated food, but no one is listening.

Although a test may be developed for whole genetically manipulated corn, an entirely different test would have to be developed for cornstarch—a by-product of corn—and that just isn't happening, said Bilmer.

Consumers fight back

For some local grocery shoppers, this isn't a good enough excuse. They have formed coalitions against genetically manipulated food, arguing for everything from labeling of genetically manipulated food products to the subsidization of organic farmers.

Derrick Mallard, president of Sooke's Citizens Action to Save the Environment Society, is lobbying the federal government to impose mandatory labeling and testing of all genetically manipulated foods and their derivatives.

"It's not just a food allergy issue," said Mallard. "No one has a clue what carcinogenic effects [genetically manipulated] foods have on the body."

Although across-the-board testing on all genetically manipulated foods has yet to be seen in Canada, the genetically manipulated products themselves, such as canola, tomatoes, potatoes, corn, flax, soybeans, wheat and squash are being mass distributed nationwide, according to Health Canada.

Shoppers in the brightly colored produce sections of local markets might pause over the velvety, dark green broccoli, the plump purple grapes and the sturdy orange carrots and wonder how to pick the healthiest vegetables for a garden salad.

Joe Farell, a Victoria vegetarian, opts to buy organic produce and avoids all mainstream produce.

"I don't want to dust off my tomatoes because they've been altered to last for months. What's good for a caterpillar is good for me," said Farell.

But buying organic produce is an expensive option for many shoppers.

That's why Joan Russow, the National Green Party leader, and chair of the Victoria Coalition for Banning Genetically Altered Foods and Crops, wants to go one step further and get the federal government to subsidize organic farms—to push the price of 'natural' produce down.

Russow's coalition also wants to change the call for mandatory labeling to a call for a complete ban on all genetically manipulated produce.

"Calling for labeling doesn't address the issue. It's just a Band-Aid and doesn't communicate the urgency of this situation as an environmental issue," said Russow.

The coalition's strategies include educating the public on genetically manipulated food production and setting up programs to teach farmers to grow organic produce while continuing to turn a profit, said Russow.

But in the long run, grocery shoppers—with the strength of their purchasing power—will make or break the genetically manipulated food industry. If people aren't buying it, food manufacturers like Monsanto will lose their market and stop producing their genetically manipulated products.

Thrifty Foods, a grocery store chain that stretches the length of Vancouver Island, opts out of buying genetically manipulated food, because currently a cheaper alternative—"regularly" grown produce—is readily available, says Michael Mockler, the chain's produce director.

Thrifty Foods may be opting out of the expensive wholesale of genetically manipulated produce, but when a genetically manipulated product, such as Prince Edward Island's Green-Leaf potato, arrives in produce bins, it is the shopper not the store that reaps the rewards of the genetically manipulated produce. Bluntly put: genetically manipulated produce is cheaper for the consumer not the grocery store.

"Consumers prefer to buy genetically manipulated produce because it looks nicer and keeps longer," said Mockler. "As a consumer, would you buy an ugly B.C. potato over a nice-looking genetically manipulated potato that's cheaper?"

But even with the promise of higher sales, Thrifty Foods continues to buy and sell 'regular' produce and encourages shoppers worried about genetically manipulated produce to lobby the government for change, said Mockler.

Mallard, president of Citizens Action to Save the Environment Society, also continues to inform both the public and the federal government that genetically manipulated food will not be received with open arms by educated Canadians.

"The consumer has got to get to know the problem, because that's halfway to finding the answer," said Mallard.

But what is it?

On the table in front of Lev, a rainbow of stir-fried vegetables steams— the colours are vibrant and glistening. But who knows for sure whether these vegetables are genetically manipulated or not? Without mandatory labeling, not even the manager of a restaurant would be able to answer that question, let alone a server. So for now, Lev is content to quiz her server on the way her meal was prepared. She is on the constant lookout for fish oils, protecting herself from a possibly deadly attack.

But as Canada sits on the cusp of the proliferation of innovative genetically manipulated produce and is continually experimenting with new genetic codes, who's to say cross-species genetically manipulated produce won't be next? In the United States, experiments implementing fish genes into tomatoes to eliminate frost are already underway.

Farell, the vegetarian and organic-produce buyer, remembers a time when genetically manipulated produce wasn't even an issue. He crosses his wrinkled hands in his lap and whispers, "A tomato just isn't a tomato anymore."

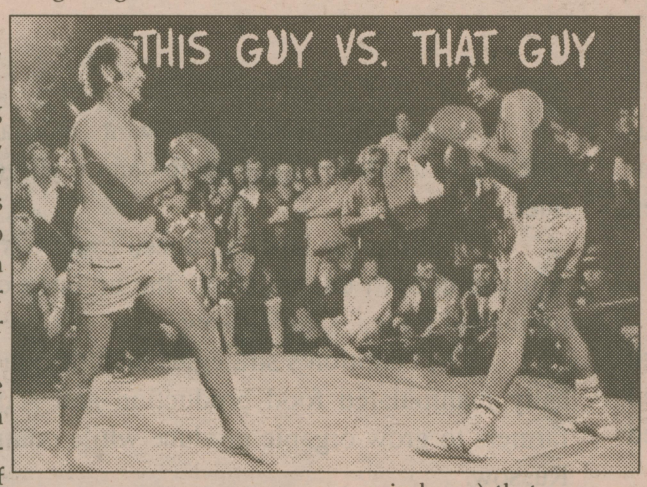
The Oscars: best of the year or the wax of one's ear? Debate continues

by Anil Narine

A century of film ends *In Love*

The 71st Annual Academy Awards ceremony (held Sunday, March 21) reminded me exactly why I love movies. Picking up the pieces after last year's ceremony—from which *Titanic* director James Cameron's grim acceptance speeches seemed to echo like a curse upon the film industry—1998 seemed like a wasteland of films ranging from fair to simply disastrous.

But it became clear that the public's unquenchable thirst for entertainment and entertainment-about-entertainment kept the money flowing into the box offices (*The Waterboy*?) with the same vigor with which the largely cynical and unentertaining images flowed onto the screens.



The final quarter of '98 was, however, worth the wait.

Shakespeare in Love did something even more amazing than any editing, sound effect or camera angle in *Saving Private Ryan*—it made the most famous English playwright accessible to American audiences and actors—both of whom, until recently, would steer clear of the Bard in fear of having their ignorance or lack of talent exposed.

Life is Beautiful also achieved the impossible—seven nominations for a foreign film from a western establishment that still fears subtitles. On top of this feat, its star/director/co-writer Roberto Benigni was the first foreign language actor since fellow Italian Sophia Loren to win Best Actor.

To the same extent that *Saving Private Ryan* has been over-praised, *Life* has suffered the opposite. This is a meticulously directed, charmingly acted and visually stunning film, and no one is brutally killed or dismembered on screen, an equally phenomenal feat.

Gods and Monsters, *The Red Violin*, *Affliction* and Don McKellar's jewel *Last Night* further made this year a winner for those medium-sized films in near-wide release—but Oscars are as much about size as quality.

Benigni's wins for Foreign Film and Actor enlivened the Oscar audience with hope. Gwyneth didn't need her Oscar to become Hollywood's most sought-after star, but she sure deserved it and accepted it with the poise and humility for which she has become famous. But the mounting number of awards in Shakespeare's corner grew to a re-affirming climax which simply stated—Love over War!

by Lyndsay Sung

Oscar has about as much meaning as a piece of jack shit

Wah wah, boohoo, Grampa Buster. Who the fuck cares? Especially when Hollywood is this boring?

I have never sat through such a boring four hours of mindless self-thank yous and ass-kiss idiocy than the Oscars. Thank goodness I did some other important things like chat on the phone and wash underwear in the meantime. Come on, stupids. If you're gonna spend a bazillion dollars on a televised extravaganza, get some creativity, and I don't mean shit sucking interpretive dance to *Saving Private Ryan*. Really!

If it's gonna cost that much money, at least make it interesting, with scandal and sex, low-cut dresses and interesting people and performances. Yeh, I'd like to piss right in Celine Dion's rouge and golden foundation-stained white hat.

How did this thing get so huge in the first place, these shitty Academy Awards? Especially when there's, like, only 200 people in the "Academy" who vote for these bad boring films.

There is so much more originality in the film world that demands to be honoured, such as Don McKellar's *Last Night*. I bet any one of those clown actors (all white, mind you) that were nominated would be so embarrassed of their work if they ever stepped outside of the Hollywood shit bubble and saw something real for a change.

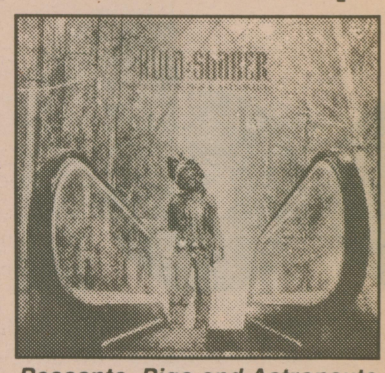
The only good part of the evening was when Chris Rock came onstage and everyone's hearts stopped. "Somebody musta had a death wish if they wanted me up here onstage," Rock said, as he was announcing something about Best Sound Editing. "It looks like the Million White Man March out there!"

You can just see the head execs at the Oscars going, "Well geez, now what do the kids like these days? What are the black folks into these days? That Mike Rock fellow, he's popular, isn't he?"

And Gwyneth...suck it up, bitch! I have as much sympathy for your "hard year" as I do for my own ass. Boohoo, go eat your carrot sticks.

Of course, for those of you who were lucky enough to not tune into this stupid broadcast, those who are lucky enough not to have a television and be forced by your bad conscience to watch such idiotic dribble, you will have no idea what I am talking about. Good for you. And please. Help me.

Shaker it up



Peasants, Pigs and Astronauts
Kula Shaker
Sony

by Chris Willer

I've run the gamut of emotion while reviewing this CD. When I first saw the second release of one of my favourite British bands I was more than excited to get my greasy little hands latched on to the disc and to transport it home to the safety of my CD player. Once I put the disc on I was almost in tears.

I was in tears because, compared to Kula Shaker's *K* album, which hit airwarves while I was rocking the free world in England a couple of years ago, this new album lacked spark. I cried because I was disappointed.

Pulling up my diapers I realized that I needed to give the disc a full listen-through to see if my views were justified. They weren't. After listening to the album for a solid week, I am proud to say that *Peasants, Pigs and Astronauts* is a decent second coming from Kula Shaker.

Kula Shaker is the British equivalent to Ontario's Tea Pary. Shaker uses eastern musical influences and combines traditional Brit-rcok into a very exquisite show of talent.

Songs like "Shower Your Love" and "Golden Avatar" make this album worth buying if only for those two songs alone.

The rest of the album is solid, but less hits jump out at you when compared the band's first album.

Kula Shaker's second release is mature in that the music flows more smoothly, the lyrics are, well, more lyrical, and the band has utilized even more of its eastern influence in the songwriting. This all adds up to a very enjoyable disc which I am happy to say amounts to a rather contented viewer in me.

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Generic Party: just what it says

The Generic Party
Written by Heather Libby and Peggy Gordon
Dir: Erin Gavaghan
by Pam Graham

I wasn't sure what to expect from this play—I should have paid more attention to the title, but I assumed there was a deeper meaning. Silly me.

The Generic Party gave the audience exactly what was advertised—a generic party.

The Generic Party was put on by SATCO, the Student Alternative Theatre Company. The group was developed in 1991 by students who were not getting what they wanted out of the department. Nathan Medd, a member of SATCO's board of directors, says that SATCO is about learning and constructive criticism, and it is camaraderie that drives it.

SATCO allows theatre students to produce anything they want (off the mainstage), such as *The Generic Party,* which ran March 18 and 19.

Written, directed and produced by students, the show thrives off its energy from the beginning.

Before the audience even sits down, the cast is on stage dancing away to overly loud music and disco-style lighting. The 34 characters in the play allow everyone in the audience to relate to at least one of the "generic" party-goers. For everyone who has managed to squeeze in a massive party during their high school or university years there was someone in the play who was recognizable, whether it was the snobby "Bubble Gum Gang" with their too-tight clothing and super-short miniskirts, the "Backstreet Boys Rejects" with their baggy pants and sideways caps, or the DJ couple with their seizure-like gestures.

"We were not going to go halfway with anything," said director Erin Gavaghan. "We were going to make it as loud and as big as possible."

The Generic Party was an entertaining way to spend an hour, with great music, tons of action and hysterical jokes and surprises including a totally naked man streaking through the party for 50 bucks.

Containing numerous movie and television thefts, including one dance sequence that was most likely a copyright violation, the show still manages to entertain.

"It was so bad, it was good," said Medd. "The difference between *The Generic Party* and everything else done by SATCO is that it was for fun." He said people want to see something fun at this time of the school year.

"*The Generic Party* is not representative of the art that comes out of SATCO," said Medd.

Gavaghan said that SATCO allows students to try anything. "Being a part of SATCO is great because it gets us closer to what we would be doing in the outside world," she said.

The Generic Party was the last SATCO play of the year and possibly marks the end of an era, since SATCO's future is unknown. Medd said that their already limited time schedule, currently slotted during their 90 minute lunches, is being cut next year, but he hopes that because of its success this season and the support from faculty and staff, SATCO will be able to continue in a time slot in the evenings next year.

SATCO kids rip it up in *The Generic Party.*
Martlet photo by Peter Booth

Turning stones into gold

by Joel Casselman

It's been three years since the translation of *Stones and Ashes* won the Governor General's Award, but it has finally been brought to Victoria audiences by Theatre SKAM.

The play, written by French-Canadian Playwright Daniel Danis, has been performed throughout Canada and Europe, where Danis has a major following, but it was a chance encounter between the script and director Amiel Gladstone that brought it to The Belfry.

"It's been good," said Gladstone.

"It's been a huge step up for us. Normally we're performing in cars or parking lots."

"The opening night went really well. It's been a huge step up for us. Normally we're performing in cars or parking lots."

The play focuses on Clayton, who moves with his daughter Laura to a small town after the violent death of his wife. However, Clayton cannot escape tragedy or the dangers involved in loving people.

"It's a dark, poetic take on things," said Gladstone.

Except for a small platform, *Stone and Ashes* uses no props whatsoever.

Slides shown on a screen behind the stage create the play's various backdrops.

The script of *Stones and Ashes* is unlike most plays. Rather than being written as a dialogue, it consists of a series of monologues and soliloquies. When one character speaks, the others freeze and fade into the shadows as if they were never there. Even when the characters are together, they do not speak to each other. Instead they flash back and forth between monologues.

This serves to emphasize the loneliness and isolation that Clayton has immersed himself in.

There are also times when the performers speak from behind the screen, their bodies half hidden by the translucent material.

You've missed Stone and Ashes, *but Theatre SKAM will be presenting their* Summer Kamp *again this year. For more information call 386-7526.*

Students from Athletics and Recreation dance classes strut their stuff at the third annual Dance Showcase, held Tuesday, March 23 in the UVic Auditorium.

The dance classes start in mid-January, so the entire show was put together in only eight weeks.

"It's wonderful to see the production from beginning to end and finally see it on stage," said organizer, Denise Lieutaghi.

The showcase featured swing, modern, ballet, jazz, Afro-Caribbean and traditional dances from India.

Martlet photo by Rachel Kiers.

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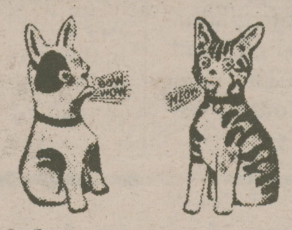

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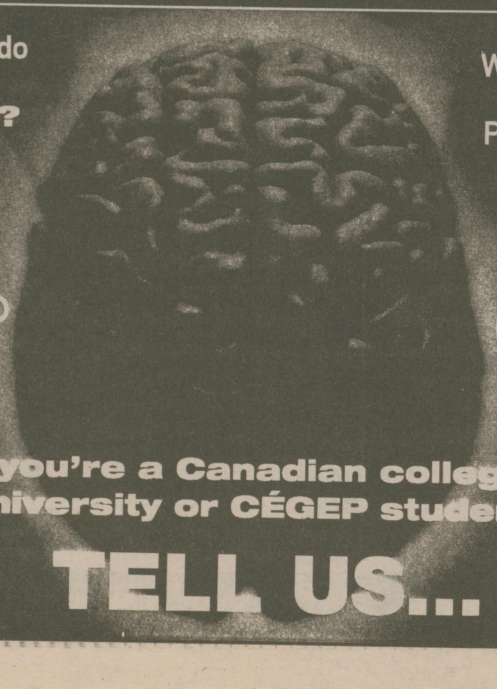

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Ali's coming home

by Walker MacLeod

The Vikes might be graduating three players this season, but it appears that they will be welcoming a familiar face into the line-up for the 1999-2000 campaign.

Sources close to the team report that point guard Ali Wilmott, who played for two years at UVic before sitting out this past season, will return to McKinnon this summer for his fourth year of eligibility.

Wilmott, whose older brother Andy also had an outstanding career at UVic, was the 1995 Vancouver Island High School 'AAA' Basketball MVP as he led SMU's Blue Devils to the Island championship and a fifth-place showing at the provincials.

The 6'4" floor general started on the 1997 Vikes squad that took home the National Championship and was a phenom in his first season as a Vike.

Unfortunately, Wilmott struggled during the 1997-98 campaign and lost the starting point guard position to transfer student Ralph Carter.

Wilmott chose to take this season off and travel, which left teammates unsure whether he planned to return or not.

Wilmott and fellow Victoria native Jamie Blake, who is redshirting this year but will be eligible next year, should bring stability to the point guard position with the loss of Carter to graduation. Blake, a Vic High grad, moved back to the Island after starting as the point for two seasons with Brandon.

Nationals a bust

Vikes return from Halifax without the national championship

by Walker MacLeod

All good things must come to an end, and last weekend the stellar career of Vikes super-centre Eric Hinrichsen concluded with a pair of disappointing losses at the National Championships in Halifax.

UVic entered the Final 8 Tournament as the number three seed. The Vikes were beaten by fellow wildcard McMaster in the first round. The team then fell to Western Ontario on the consolation side of the draw.

In the opener, the Marauders jumped on UVic with an early 8-0 run, and the Vikes were never able to fully recover.

Steve MacDonald cut the lead to 31-27 with a three-pointer at the halftime buzzer, but UVic could get no closer on their way to a 71-58 defeat.

McMaster smothered Hinrichsen all game and limited the CIAU Player of the Year to 12 points and 12 rebounds, as the Vikes struggled to get the ball to Hinrichsen in scoring position. With the inside game stifled, the UVic backcourt trio of Robbie Green, Ralph Carter and Keith Bustard struggled too, converting on only three of 13 three-point attempts all evening.

"Their defensive pressure took us out of our offense," said coach Vetrie after the game.

"Our younger players in the backcourt struggled a bit with their pressure. McMaster took advantage of our weakness."

McMaster's pressure defense was what UVic had prepared for in the week heading into the first round showdown, but it still proved to be too much for the Vikes. UVic turned the ball over 16 times and was also outrebounded by a 42-29 margin.

"They are a very athletic team. We prepared for their defense all week, but their pressure got to us, " said a disappointed Vetrie back home in Victoria.

Hinrichsen agreed with Vetrie's assessment of the weekend games.

"This is a disappointing way to go out, but they were the better team tonight."

UVic's hopes for a fifth place finish were dashed the next morning as the Vikes put in an uninspired effort against the Western Ontario Mustangs.

UVic sleepwalked through the first half and trailed by 23 at the break before losing 79-54.

The loss marked the end of an era at Gordon Head because it was the last time that Eric Hinrichsen will wear a Vikes uniform on the court. The Campbell River native has spent five outstanding seasons with the Vikes and brought the program back to glory by helping to bring the 1997 national title home to the University of Victoria.

Despite the difficult ending to this season, Hinrichsen's future is looking quite bright. The two-time Bill Moser award winner is poised for a professional career overseas, though it is unknown exactly where he will be playing next season.

"I would imagine Eric will be involved with the National Team this summer and get even more international exposure," said Vetrie. "He could really end up playing anywhere."

Soccer: Spring Cup '99

Coaches prepare for next year as season nears its end

by Mary Vallis

Women's action

Women's soccer coach Ian Bridge must have been joking when he said the sunburn on the top of his head was the highlight of his weekend.

Though his squad lost the 1999 Spring Cup, the team played well against the country's best teams in the off-season contest.

The Vikes took their arch-rivals, Simon Fraser University, 2-1 over the weekend, but eventually lost the cup to the UBC 'Birds, who took the University of Alberta Pandas 1-0 in the championship game.

But an overall win was beyond their reach.

"It's always nice to beat SFU," said Bridge, who called this season his team's best ever by far.

Jeanette Haas, playing in her fifth year with the Vikes, pushed the team forward with her first goal in the second half, then finished off SFU with another goal in the game's final minute.

With the academic year winding down, Bridge said he was happy with this year's line-up and called this year "the best season by far ever."

Bridge is losing at least five starters to eligibility and graduation, including Haas, Nina Miller, Tera Kasubuchi, Eirin Amundsen and Julie Mizuno, who have all been setting an example for younger players with the Vikes this year. The Vikes coach has pegged next year as a transition year and is already eyeing two or three players as potential recruits, though he said the line-up won't be certain until August.

Bridge is still checking out Sara Bartlett and Maria Sjobeck of the Malaspina Mariners as potential Vikes, though he says entrance to UVic and eligibility for scholarships may play into the players' final decisions. He also wants UVic's Joanne Nash to return to the squad.

Men's action

With the weather warming up and the soccer season cooling down, head coach Bruce Wilson says his men's team is ending their year together with a bang.

The Vikes took the Spring Cup last weekend, and Wilson says it was a win they deserved.

"We certainly deserved to win," said Wilson. "We dominated the game."

UVic outdid the UBC Thunderbirds in the championship with a 3 to 1 win, thanks to goals by Ken Laity, Geordie Lyall and Robie Vienou.

The win marks the ninth time in 14 years that the Vikes have brought the cup home.

With the off-season fast approaching, Wilson isn't ready to slow down just yet.

He's looking forward to collegiate play as a chance to check out new recruits for next year's team.

The Vikes are losing six of their long-standing players at the end of the academic year, including Lyall and Simon Vickers, which marks an especially high player turnover for the nationally ranked team.

"We're basically starting all over again," said Bridge.

Last year four senior players left the team, which makes this year's six seem higher than usual.

But not to worry. Wilson already has several recruits picked out for his team, including a pair of brothers, Chris and Sean Craviero, who are the cousins of a current Vike, Nico.

Mount Doug's Brett Saunders is also a done deal, according to Wilson.

But, of course, admission to UVic and scholarships will play into next year's final line-up.

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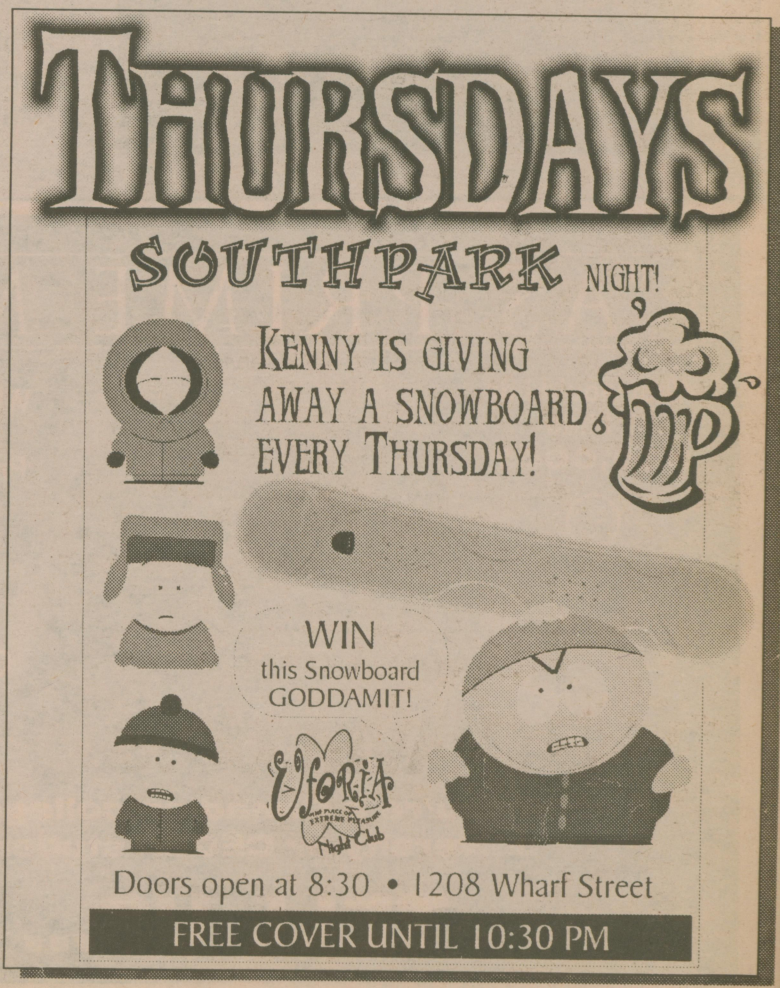
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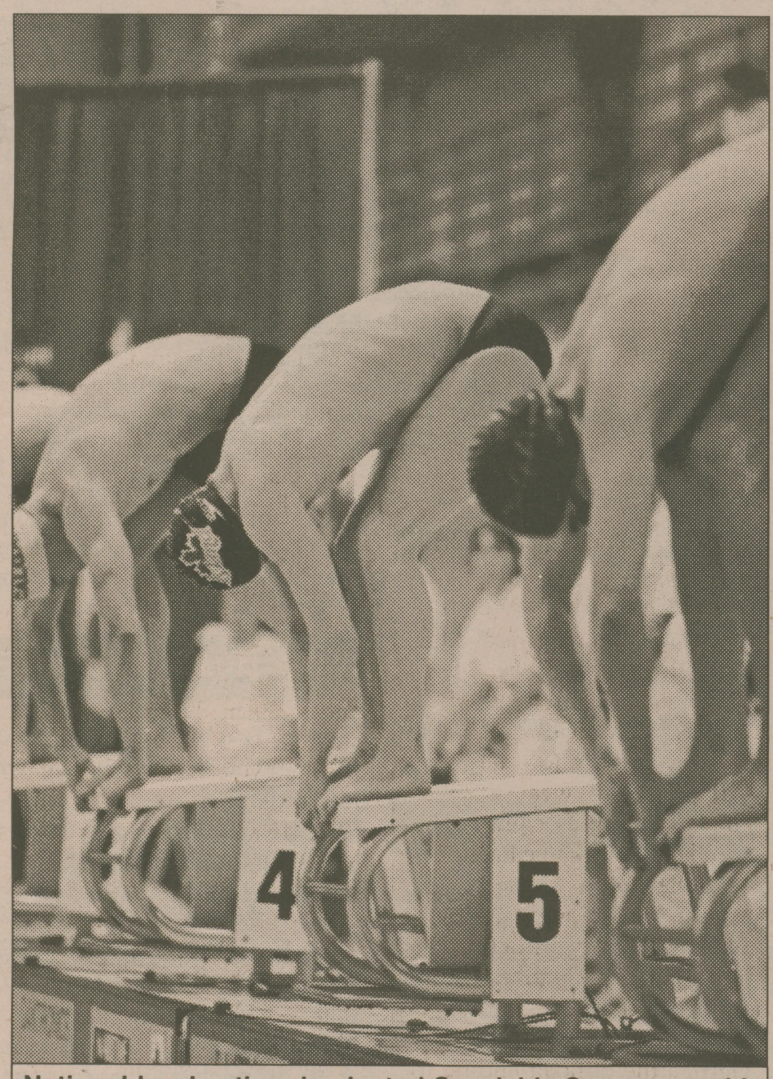
Vikes swim to victory at nationals

UVic's Phil Weiss and Rick Say make national team; Petelski DQ'ed

by Craig Battle



National-level action dominated Saanich's Commonwealth Pool last weekend, and UVic's contingent swam well against its competitors.

Martlet photo by Rachel Kiers

For some swimmers, the final stretch to the wall is the most tense part of the race.

Martlet photo by Rachel Kiers

Commonwealth Pool was the scene of a national dogfight last weekend, and two UVic athletes emerged at the top of the pack in the end.

Racing under coach Ron Jacks and the Island Swimming Club, UVic students Rick Say and Phil Weiss each amassed enough total points at the Spring National Championships in Saanich to be chosen among the top 32 male and female swimmers that make up Canada's national team.

The team plans to travel to three international meets, including the World Short Course Championships in Hong Kong April 1 to 4, the Pan-American Games in Winnipeg and the Pan-Pacific Championships in Sydney, Australia.

Say, a relative newcomer in only his second season of year-round competition, swam personal bests in both the 200 and 400-metre freestyles.

Say dropped nearly a second from his 200 time to take the bronze and slashed four seconds off his best 400 to snatch the silver. He finished eighth in the 400 free at last year's summer nationals.

"It's great to be still fast enough to make the team," said Say, who has moved up four spots on the national ladder since last summer. This year's team carries only 16 males compared to the 20 of last year's Commonwealth Games roster.

Also in his second year at UVic but a veteran of the swimming world, Phil Weiss made the team—for the third straight year—despite a rocky weekend in the pool.

Weiss reached the podium in the 200 butterfly with a silver medal finish, while placing a disappointing fourth in both the 200 and 400 individual medley.

"I wanted to do a little better than I did," said Weiss, who won bronze in both the 200 and 400 IM at the summer nationals in Toronto last year.

"I was going for personal bests and didn't get them. [But] getting on the national team on a consistent basis still feels good," he added.

Weiss will not attend the World Short Course Championships because of schoolwork and his upcoming end-of-term exams, but he looks forward to the Pan-Ams and especially the Pan-Pacs, which serve as a stage meet for the 2000 Olympics that take place in the same city.

Christin Petelski, who was a member of last year's national team, had a trying experience on her own turf and fell short of making this year's national squad.

"Getting on the national team on a consistent basis feels good."

Petelski, who swam in the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta, was disqualified from the 100-metre breaststroke event on Thursday for what one judge labelled a "fly kick."

But UVic coach Peter Vizsolyi said Petelski has perfected the "wave-action breaststroke," and said the judge was misinformed of the international standard.

Saturday's 200 butterfly was a further disappointment for Petelski when she placed fourth in the race with a time nearly four seconds off her personal best in the event.

"I was weary of what I was doing," said Petelski. "I just didn't execute my race plan and found myself playing catch-up."

"Getting DQ'ed on a technicality makes you hesitant," said Vizsolyi. "It's not her race to swim soft."

Vizsolyi added that Petelski will still make the Pan-Pacific Championships team with a second chance to show that she can beat the qualification times during the summer nationals in Montreal in early August.

Petelski will only miss out on the opportunity to face American swimmers at the Pan-Ams—she hadn't planned on attending the worlds if she had made the team.

"You can't dwell, you just have to move forward," said Petelski. "I still have another chance."

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Involved in a Potential Legal Problem? Visit the Legal Information Clinic offered by the students of the Faculty of Law. Tues., 12:30 to 1:30, Wed., 5 to 7p.m., Thurs., 12:00 to 1:30 p.m. Rm 125 Begbie Building. FREE and CONFIDENTIAL.

Sierra Youth Coalitions' "Endangered Species Seminar" on Thursday, March 25 at 4:30-6p.m. in the Classroom Building Room C108. Featuring a slide show & discussions about marine endangered species & legislation issues. Free admission + food.

Interested in Naturopathic medicine? On Thursday, March 25, a representative from the Canadian College of Naturopathic Medicine will be at UVic to answer questions about admissions, classes etc. Meeting will be held at 5:30 in the Upper SUB Lounge, Room 110b.

Hey wonderful womyn! There are a lot of great things going on at the Women's Centre & we have many more events that we'd like to get started on–but we need your help. Please volunteer 'cause it's fun! Call 721-8353 or drop by SUB B107.

Check out the "Raëlians & the true face of God"on Thursday, March 25 at the Cadboro Commons, 4:30p.m.

Come to the Inter-Cultural Association's International Garage Sale on Saturday, March 27 from 9a.m. - 3p.m. & Sunday, March 28 from 12 - 3p.m. at 930 Balmoral Street. Call Cristina at 388-4728.

Check 'dis out! History in Art Student Society Social at Millennium! Featuring DJ Various and Sirens on IO. March 28, 7 to midnight. Tix: $4 in advance/ $5/door. Support HASS!

SEEKING A SEDER FOR PASSOVER? Join the Jewish Students' Association for a seder meal on the first night of Passover, Wednesday March 31st. We can also help you find a community family for the second night, Thursday April 1st. To reserve your place, call 370-9488 or e-mail <jewish@uvic.ca>.

Daniel Tones, a Victoria percussionist will be giving his graduating recital, Wednesday, March 31 at the Phillip T. Young Recital Hall at 8p.m. Admission is free.

Spanish & Italian year end party. Live Cuban music & dancing. Door prizes, cookbook & food. Thursday, April 1, 7p.m. at the Grad Lounge. $3 cover.

☞ Off-Campus

Visit the Easter bunny, decorate eggs or join in on the Easter egg hunt at the Easter Eggstravaganza at the Fernwood Community Centre, March 27 at 10:30a.m. Call 381-1552 for more information.

UVic B.C. Young Liberals are having their annual general meeting & elections March 28 at 6p.m.. It will be held at the Med Grill Restaurant (corner of Yates & Vancouver). All club members are invited to come to the AGM. Call Herman at 472-2388 for more information.

GirlFutures Association presents a spring series of free workshops for girls. Topics range from creative writing & theatre to women in sports and healthy vegetarian eating. Workshops are designed for girls 10-16 and are offered on alternating Wednesdays from 6:30-8:30p.m. & Saturdays from 1:00-3:00p.m., at the James Bay Youth Centre. Call 386-1179 for more information.

Announcements

Learn how to help through listening. Volunteer & make a difference by attending a NEED Crisis & Information Line Information Session. The next sessions are Monday, March 22 & Monday, March 29. Please call Zoë Chicoine @ 386-6328.

Victoria AIDS Respite Care Society is looking for volunteers to help with home help, driving and respite care. Volunteers are trained in issues specific to providing care for people with HIV. Call 388-6220.

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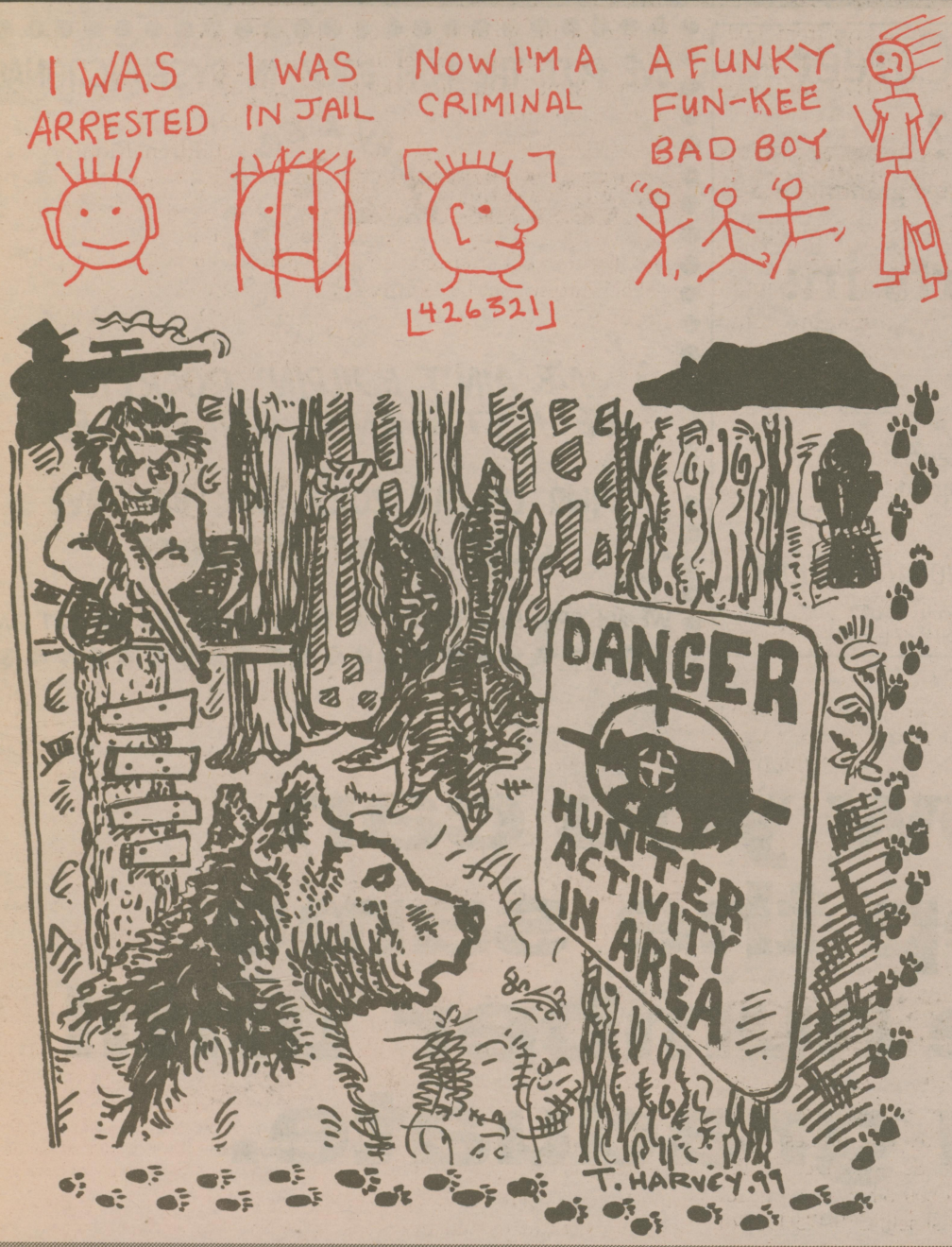

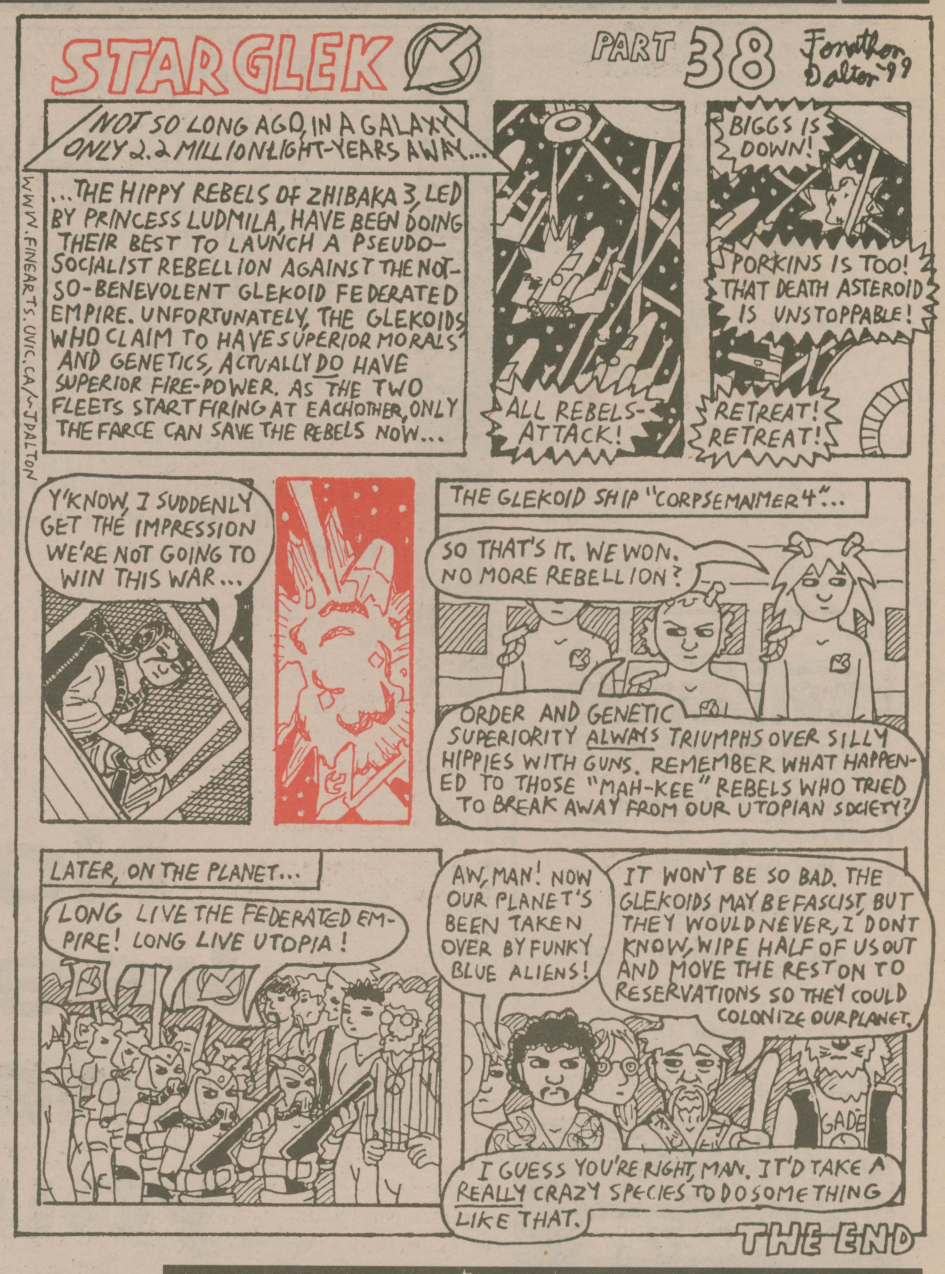
STARGLEK
PART 38
Jonathan Dalton -99
NOT SO LONG AGO, IN A GALAXY ONLY 2.2 MILLION LIGHT-YEARS AWAY...
...THE HIPPY REBELS OF ZHIBAKA 3, LED BY PRINCESS LUDMILA, HAVE BEEN DOING THEIR BEST TO LAUNCH A PSEUDO-SOCIALIST REBELLION AGAINST THE NOT-SO-BENEVOLENT GLEKOID FEDERATED EMPIRE. UNFORTUNATELY, THE GLEKOIDS WHO CLAIM TO HAVE SUPERIOR MORALS AND GENETICS, ACTUALLY DO HAVE SUPERIOR FIRE-POWER. AS THE TWO FLEETS START FIRING AT EACHOTHER, ONLY THE FARCE CAN SAVE THE REBELS NOW...
WWW.FINEARTS.UVIC.CA/~JDALTON
ALL REBELS- ATTACK!
BIGGS IS DOWN!
PORKINS IS TOO! THAT DEATH ASTEROID IS UNSTOPPABLE!
RETREAT! RETREAT!
Y'KNOW, I SUDDENLY GET THE IMPRESSION WE'RE NOT GOING TO WIN THIS WAR...
THE GLEKOID SHIP "CORPSEMAIMER 4"...
SO THAT'S IT. WE WON. NO MORE REBELLION?
ORDER AND GENETIC SUPERIORITY ALWAYS TRIUMPHS OVER SILLY HIPPIES WITH GUNS. REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO THOSE "MAH-KEE" REBELS WHO TRIED TO BREAK AWAY FROM OUR UTOPIAN SOCIETY?
LATER, ON THE PLANET...
LONG LIVE THE FEDERATED EMPIRE! LONG LIVE UTOPIA!
AW, MAN! NOW OUR PLANET'S BEEN TAKEN OVER BY FUNKY BLUE ALIENS!
IT WON'T BE SO BAD. THE GLEKOIDS MAY BE FASCIST, BUT THEY WOULD NEVER, I DONT KNOW, WIPE HALF OF US OUT AND MOVE THE REST ON TO RESERVATIONS SO THEY COULD COLONIZE OUR PLANET.
GADE
I GUESS YOU'RE RIGHT, MAN. IT'D TAKE A REALLY CRAZY SPECIES TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT.
THE END

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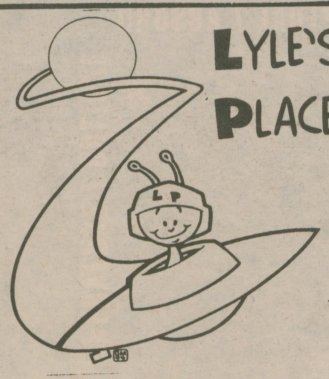

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